

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please **AMEND** claims 1, 3, and 4 as follows.

Please **ADD** claims 5-11 as follows.

A copy of all pending claims and a status of the claims are provided below.

1. (currently amended) A floor panel which is bounded in a horizontal plane by a top side, ~~which is provided with~~ having a decorative layer, and an underside, ~~which is provided for bearing on an underlying surface, the floor panel being provided with means for the releasable connection of~~ releasably connecting at least two panels, it ~~being the case that wherein~~ the connecting means are formed on at least one first side edge such that locking takes place in a transverse direction (Q) and vertical direction (V), ~~that and further comprising~~ form-fitting elements for locking in the vertical direction (V) with a further panel are formed on a second side edge, which runs running at an angle to the first side edge, ~~and that wherein~~ the form-fitting elements are spaced apart from one another in the transverse direction (Q) and in the vertical direction (V) on two spaced-apart, essentially vertically oriented walls, and further comprising a tongue is formed on the first side edge, ~~the tongue and~~ extending in the longitudinal direction of the first side edge, and a recess [[,]] corresponding to the tongue, ~~is formed on an opposite side edge, the wherein an~~ underside of the tongue, starting from ~~the a~~ tip of the tongue, ~~having~~ has a continuously curved contour.

2. (previously presented) The floor panel according to Claim 1, wherein a radius of curvature of the contour of the underside of the tongue is constant over at least 90 degrees.

3. (currently amended) The floor panel according to Claim 1, wherein the recess is designed as a groove with a top lip and a bottom lip, in which the tongue (40) can be latched in the transverse direction (Q), ~~the underside of the tongue being of rounded design.~~

4. (currently amended) The floor panel according to Claim 1, ~~wherein further comprising a first step-like milled relief formed on the second side edge and starting which starts from the underside, wherein the first step-like milled relief includes an inner wall on which one said form-fitting element extending in the transverse direction (Q) is arranged and an outer wall on which an other said form-fitting element extending in the transverse direction (Q) is arranged, and has an inner wall and an outer wall is formed on the second side edge, in each case one form fitting element which extends in the transverse direction (Q) being formed on the walls, and further comprising in that formed on the side edge which is located opposite the second side edge is a second step-like milled relief formed on a side edge that is located opposite the second side edge, wherein the second step-like milled relief which starts from the top side and has an other inner wall and an other outer wall, on which are formed undercuts which correspond with the one and the other form-fitting elements, wherein the first step-like milled relief, which starts from the underside, forming forms a shoulder which projects in the a direction of the underside and has an essentially horizontally oriented head surface, and further comprising a channel being formed in the head surface along the a longitudinal extent in relation to the second side edge.~~

5. (new) A floor panel, comprising:

- a top side;
- an underside for bearing on an underlying surface;
- a first side edge having a tongue;
- an opposite side edge having a recess corresponding to the tongue; and
- a second side edge extending in a transverse direction to the first side edge and having form-fitting elements for locking in a vertical direction with a further panel, wherein the form-fitting elements are spaced apart from one another in the vertical direction and the transverse direction.

6. (new) The floor panel of claim 5, wherein an underside of the tongue has a radius of curvature that is constant over at least 90 degrees.

7. (new) The floor panel of claim 5, wherein the recess is formed as a groove with a top lip and a bottom lip, in which the tongue of another floor panel can be latched in the transverse direction.

8. (new) The floor panel of claim 5, wherein the second side edge includes a first step-like milled relief starting from the underside and having an essentially vertical inner wall and an essentially vertical outer wall, wherein one said form-fitting element is formed on the inner wall and an other said form-fitting element is formed on the outer wall.

9. (new) The floor panel of claim 8, further comprising a side edge opposite the second side edge having a second step-like milled relief and having spaced apart undercuts which correspond to the form-fitting elements.

10. (new) The floor panel of claim 8, wherein the first step-like milled relief includes an essentially horizontal head surface with a channel formed therein.

11. (New) A floor panel, comprising:

- a top side;

- an underside;

- a first side edge having a tongue;

- an opposite side edge having a recess corresponding to the tongue;

- a second side edge extending in a transverse direction to the first side edge and having a first relief comprising an inner wall, a first form-fitting element arranged on the inner wall, an inner shoulder wall, an essentially horizontally oriented head surface, an outer wall, and a second form-fitting element arranged on the outer wall; and

- a side edge opposite the second side edge having a second relief comprising an other outer wall, a first undercut corresponding to the first form-fitting element arranged

on the other inner wall, an other head surface, a shoulder wall, a base surface, an other head surface, an other inner wall, and a second undercut corresponding to the second form fitting element arranged on the other inner wall,

wherein the form-fitting elements are structured and arranged to engage undercuts of a substantially identical panel.